

JMT Young Adult Placement Adult Placement Service

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Type of inspection:

Announced (short notice)

Completed on:

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Service provided by:

JMT Care Services Ltd

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About the service

JMT Young Adult Placement Service provides a Continuing Care Service to young people that have lived with their carers for a number of years under the support of the JMT Fostering Service. Although JMT Young Adult Placement is registered separately, the service is intricately linked to JMT Fostering and the support is provided by the same staff and management team.

The service is offered to a range of young people across the West, South and Central belt of Scotland. The service is based in Livingston with staff also based in Dundee and Glasgow.

About the inspection

This was a short notice announced inspection that took place between 8 July 2024 and 31 July 2024. The inspection was carried out by two inspectors from the Care Inspectorate. To prepare for the inspection we reviewed information about this service. This included previous inspection findings, registration information, information submitted by the service and intelligence gathered since the last inspection.

In making our evaluations of the service we:

- spoke with six caregivers and 18 completed our survey
- spoke with three children and young people and four completed our survey
- spoke with 10 staff and management and four completed our survey
- · observed practice and daily life
- · reviewed documents
- spoke with four visiting professionals and 10 completed our survey.

During our inspection year 2024-2025 we are inspecting against a focus area which looks at how regulated services use legislation and guidance to promote children's right to continuing care and how children and young people are being helped to understand what their right to continuing care means for them. Any requirements or areas for improvement will be highlighted in this report.

JMT's Fostering Service was inspected at the same time. A separate report is available and should be read in conjunction with this one.

Key messages

- Continuing care is a long established and well embedded practice within JMT.
- Young adults thrived because the service offered exemplary support to caregivers.
- Relationship-based practice was foundational in the work that JMT staff carried out.
- Trauma informed practice was fully embedded at every level of the service.
- Young adults flourished due to the care and support they received from caregivers.
- Caregivers were thoroughly assessed and supported by the most highly skilled, responsive and knowledgeable staff.
- Young adults consistently benefited from robust, dynamic and regularly reviewed plans.
- Leaders in the service championed quality through robust processes that supported planning and excellent outcomes for young adults.

From this inspection we evaluated this service as:

In evaluating quality, we use a six point scale where 1 is unsatisfactory and 6 is excellent

| How well do we support people's wellbeing? | 6 - Excellent |
|--|---------------|
| How well is our care and support planned? | 6 - Excellent |

Further details on the particular areas inspected are provided at the end of this report.

How well do we support people's wellbeing?

6 - Excellent

We evaluated this key question as excellent where performance was sector leading with outstandingly high outcomes for children and young people.

Young adults have benefited from the service's long established commitment to continuing care. One external professional told us that the young people's caregivers were "a great example of what 'the Promise' is hoping to achieve. They were providing this care long before 'the Promise' was published!"

Young adults have invariably flourished as a result of meaningful, affectionate and secure relationships with their caregiver families. They enjoyed enduring and lifelong relationships because caregivers were extremely well supported and highly skilled in offering containing and therapeutic care to the young people.

Innovative and reflective caregiver families provided the highest quality of care because they enjoyed long term, mutually warm and respectful, professional relationships with highly skilled, kind, experienced, and knowledgeable staff. The dedicated caregivers could provide loving, nurturing families because they themselves were nurtured and actively supported, through high quality and bespoke training and frequent reflective practice discussions with the utmost responsive staff. An external professional told us "I admire and respect the commitment JMT have to their kids and carers and this filters down into the care received by the children".

Inspection report

Highly skilled, knowledgeable and compassionate staff utilised their advanced training in Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy (DDP) and their excellent knowledge of attachment and trauma to offer a containing, challenging yet supportive relationship to caregivers. Relationship-based practice was foundational in the work that JMT staff carried out. Caregivers told us that "JMT goes above and beyond to help support their carers... I know I can call them any time 24 hrs a day and get the help and support needed".

Young adults, their caregivers and staff all thrived due to the fully embedded trauma informed culture that prioritised compassion, trust, honesty and integrity. Leaders in the service ensured that everyone's wellbeing and development was considered, and the staff team were afforded the time and space to prioritise reflective, responsive and well-informed practice.

Through passionate and unfaltering advocacy, the staff ensured that young people were enabled to remain in the family for as long as possible, and until they felt ready to move on. There was an embedded culture that continuing care was the expectation for young people. Staff and caregivers all understood this and the service carried out comprehensive assessments well in advance of the young person's 18th birthday to ensure the carers approval was appropriate to provide a continuing care placement.

Assessments of caregiver families were extremely well informed, evidenced-based, collaborative, and highly analytical. The conclusions provided clear recommendations regarding carers strengths and potential vulnerabilities which were then considered at each stage of the fostering journey. This ensured caregivers had the capacity to meet the needs of the young adults they were caring for.

Young adults were living with their siblings, unless this had been assessed as not appropriate. Caregivers fully understood and embraced their role in supporting ongoing relationships with siblings, family and other people who were important to them and ensured that these relationships were prioritised.

Young adults safety was of the utmost importance. The service fully implemented national guidance and best practice in adult protection and well trained, skilled and knowledgeable staff consistently worked collaboratively with other professionals. They often went above and beyond their role to ensure young people's wellbeing was prioritised. We were really impressed with the excellent outcomes achieved as a result of outstanding communication, combined with all people having robust and ambitious plans and risk management strategies.

With the support of their caregiver families, and through access to education, at the right time and pace, people developed a wide range of life skills. Young adults confidence was uplifted by the support, and they embraced new exciting experiences that helped them to get the most out of life and also promoted interdependence.

Positive health was a key priority of the care and support on offer. Caregivers and staff took a creative and persistent approach to ensure people accessed the healthcare they required. Positive mental health was also an essential goal for all young adults. Skilled, informed and confident caregiver families and staff ensured that they advocated for young people to have timely access to appropriate specialist services for support in recovering from trauma, abuse and neglect. This included accessing the dynamic and bespoke support offered by the providers own psychological services.

How well is our care and support planned?

6 - Excellent

We evaluated this key question as excellent where performance was sector leading with outstandingly high outcomes for children and young people.

Excellent outcomes were supported by high quality multi-agency planning and individualised safer caring approaches. These were underpinned by a robust assessment of need and risk. All people had an up to date and relevant risk assessment and risk management plan and these were used to inform highly personalised and relevant safer caring plans. Safer caring plans were completed collaboratively by the supervising social worker and the carer and their knowledge and understanding of risk management and the importance of taking a therapeutic approach shone through.

We were really impressed by the trauma informed, dynamic and aspirational approach which consistently informed all aspects of care and support. The service actively sought and supported multi-agency involvement in the planning process and took appropriate steps to ensure that all children, young people and their caregiver families had appropriate plans in place. A carer told us "we have great communication with other organisations, we learn from each other."

All young adults had plans in place and the service proactively pursued and attended reviews to ensure that plans were regularly reviewed, up to date and dynamic.

Young people received full support to communicate what their outcomes should be, including advocacy where required. Planning was clearly understood by all involved and care and support planning maximised people's capacity and ability to make choices which included ambitious yet achievable opportunities for people to reduce the support they received and to maximise their independence.

Strong leadership, staff competence, meaningful involvement and embedded quality assurance and improvement processes ensured that the planning for young adults and the caregivers was of exemplary quality.

Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at www.careinspectorate.com.

Detailed evaluations

| How well do we support people's wellbeing? | 6 - Excellent |
|--|---------------|
| 1.1 Children, young people. adults and their caregiver families experience compassion, dignity and respect | 6 - Excellent |
| 1.2 Children, young people and adults get the most out of life | 6 - Excellent |
| 1.3 Children, young people and adults' health and wellbeing benefits from the care and support they experience | 6 - Excellent |
| 1.4 Children, young people, adults and their caregiver families get the service that is right for them | 6 - Excellent |

| How well is our care and support planned? | 6 - Excellent |
|--|---------------|
| 5.1 Assessment and care planning reflects the outcomes and wishes of children, young people and adults | 6 - Excellent |

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